

CANNON BUILDING 861 SILVER LAKE BLVD., SUITE 203 DOVER, DELAWARE 19904-2467

# STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

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MEETING MINUTES: BOARD OF CHARITABLE GAMING

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Thursday, December 1, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware

Conference Room B, second floor of the Cannon Building

APPROVED: January 5, 2012

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

James Greene, Chairman, DE Volunteer Fireman's Association Member Deborah Messina, Vice Chair, Public Member Sharon McDowell, Public Member

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Janet Williams-Coger, Non-Profit Member Scott Angelucci, Public Member

#### **DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT**

Robert Willard, Deputy Attorney General Michele Howard, Administrative Specialist II Sandra Wagner, Administrative Specialist III Jean Betley, Investigative Supervisor

# **ALSO PRESENT**

Jack Vogel, Harrington Fire Company
Bill Holena, Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder
Tamara Holena, Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder
Joe Franzoni, Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder
Frank Long
Carol Torre, Full House Poker
Brittany Scott, University of Delaware
Chip Thompson, Charitable Games of Delaware
A.J. Hemphill, Charitable Games of Delaware
Wayne English, ABS Distributors, Seaford Elks

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Greene called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

#### **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of November 3, 2011. Ms. Messina made a motion, seconded by Ms. McDowell, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **Final Denials**

## **Re-Review of Contingent Approvals and PTD Applications**

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church (May 2012 Raffle)

Ms. Messina made a motion, seconded by Ms. McDowell, to make a final denial of the proposed May 2012 raffle drawing of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church because the Board will only approve 6 months of raffle drawing dates at one time. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Joint Sunset Review**

Mr. Willard summarized two drafts of proposed legislation for the Board. After Mr. Willard's summary, Mr. Greene asked if the public or the staff had any questions regarding the proposed legislation. Mr. Franzoni of Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder asked why alcohol is being proposed for charitable gaming events, but not bingo events. Ms. Messina responded that the legislature has been adamant in the past that alcohol not be allowed at bingo events. However, the Board is proposing that the legislature allow alcohol at charitable gaming events.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Executive Session** None

## **Board Member Reports** None

## **Delegation of Authority**

Camden-Wyoming Moose (date change)

Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder (11/28/11 bingo)

Mill Creek Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary (winning arrangement/prize list)

Ms. Messina made a motion, seconded by Ms. McDowell, to ratify Mr. Greene's approvals under delegation of authority for Camden-Wyoming Moose, Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder, and Mill Creek Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary. The motion passed unanimously.

## Review of Applications for Texas Hold'Em Tournaments None

## **Review of Applications for Charitable Gaming Events**

New Castle Moose Lodge (Queen of Hearts)

Mr. Greene summarized the Queen of Hearts game proposed by New Castle Moose Lodge. Ms. Messina stated that the game (as explained on the application) qualifies as a raffle. Ms. Messina made a motion, seconded by Ms. McDowell, to approve the charitable gaming application of New Castle Moose Lodge for weekly raffle drawings between January and June 2012. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Messina asked that Ms. Howard add this item to the list of Board Decisions. Mr. Greene questioned why the application was listed under "Review of Charitable Gaming Applications" on the Board's agenda, rather than under "Review of Raffle Applications". Ms. Howard responded that the organization had submitted a charitable gaming application, not a raffle application.

## **Review of Applications for Instant Bingo Events** None

#### Review of Applications for Bingo Events None

#### **Review of Applications for Raffles**

Nur Shriners (limit 6 months)

Ms. Messina reviewed the application and made a motion, seconded by Ms. McDowell, to approve raffle drawings between January and June 2012 for Nur Shriners. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Messina made a motion, seconded by Ms. McDowell, to propose to deny raffle drawings between July and December 2012 for Nur Shriners because the Board will only approve 6 months of raffle events at one time. The motion passed unanimously.

## <u>Delaware Junior Blue Hens Ice Hockey Club (1st time app)</u>

Ms. Messina reviewed the application and made a motion, seconded by Ms. McDowell, to approve the raffle application of Delaware Junior Blue Hens Ice Hockey Club. The motion passed unanimously.

# Review of Request to Change Date/Venue of Approved Event None

## Inclement Weather/State of Emergency Request None

#### **Approval of Licensure List**

Ms. McDowell read aloud the raffle licensure list. Ms. Messina made a motion, seconded by Mr. Greene, to approve the raffle application of Ministry of Caring. The motion passed unanimously.

## Ratification of Charitable Gaming Event Permits Issued

Ms. McDowell read aloud the charitable gaming ratification list. Ms. Messina made a motion, seconded by Ms. McDowell, to ratify the licensure of Milton Catsnippers, Metropolitan Community Church, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 10, VFW Post 7447 Ladies Auxiliary, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Delaware, Kiwanis Club of Georgetown, Delaware Technical Community College, Delaware Center for the Inland Bays, and Ducks Unlimited. The motion passed unanimously.

## Ratification of Bingo Event Permits Issued

Ms. McDowell read aloud the bingo ratification list. Ms. Messina made a motion, seconded by Ms. McDowell, to ratify the bingo licensure of St. Margaret of Scotland Roman Catholic Church. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Hearings/Consent Agreements**

Mr. Greene stated that Complaint 22-02-11, of which he is the assigned Board Contact, has a pending hearing before a DPR Hearing Officer. A date for the hearing has not been scheduled.

## **Complaint Assignment and Status** No Updates

#### **Inspection Reports**

Mr. Greene asked how many third party vendors were present at the meeting. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Hemphill of Charitable Games of Delaware, and Ms. Torre of Full House Poker, raised their hands. Mr. Greene stated that the Division had sent inspectors to charitable gaming events since the last Board meeting, and the Board members had reviewed the resulting Inspection Reports.

# <u>Southern Delaware Horse Retirement</u>

Mr. Greene addressed Carol Torre of Full House Poker regarding the inspection of permitted games for Southern Delaware Horse Retirement. Mr. Greene and Ms. Messina reviewed the violations noted on the Inspection Report. Mr. Greene and Ms. Messina asked questions of Ms. Torre, and Ms. Torre responded.

Mr. Willard read aloud a draft of a letter to be sent to vendors and/or charities found in violation of the Board's laws and regulations. Mr. Greene stated that Ms. Torre had received her initial warning at this meeting, and that the next violation would generate a letter of concern.

Mr. Greene summarized a letter from Carol Torre, notifying the Board that the ownership of Full House Poker has changed from Adam Torre to Carol Torre. The Board members acknowledged the change of ownership. No motion was necessary to change the vendor-owner's name on permits that were previously issued.

#### Just He

The Board reviewed the Inspection Report of Just Us, which had a gaming event at Charitable Games of Delaware. Mr. Greene and Ms. Messina addressed Mr. Thompson and Mr. Hemphill of Charitable Games of Delaware, noting violations listed on the Inspection Report. Mr. Greene and Ms. Messina asked questions of Mr. Thompson and Mr. Hemphill, and both responded.

## Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder

The Board reviewed the Inspection Report of Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder. Mr. Greene and Ms. Messina addressed Mr. Holena and Mr. Franzoni, noting violations listed on the Inspection Report. Mr. Greene and Ms. Messina questioned Mr. Holena and Mr. Franzoni, and both responded. Mr. Franzoni asked if he could receive a copy of the Inspection Report. Ms. Messina, Mr. Greene and Ms. Betley agreed that copies of the Inspection Reports would not be given to the organizations. Mr. Willard stated that all violations noted on the Inspection Report would be included in a Letter of Concern mailed from the Board to the organization.

## Dover Elks Lodge

The Board reviewed the Inspection Report of Dover Elks Lodge, and noted that no one from the organization was present at the meeting. Ms. Messina stated that the Dover Elks Lodge had three minor violations.

#### Mamie Warren Senior Center

The Board reviewed the Inspection Report of Mamie Warren Senior Center, and noted that no one from the organization was present at the meeting. Ms. Messina stated that Mamie Warren Senior Center had five violations and summarized them for the public.

## Newark Elks Lodge

The Board reviewed the Inspection Report of Newark Elks Lodge, and noted that no one from the organization was present at the meeting. Ms. Messina stated that Newark Elks Lodge had seven violations and summarized them for the public.

## Mill Creek Fire Company

The Board reviewed the Inspection Report of Mill Creek Fire Company, and noted that no one from the organization was present at the meeting. Ms. Messina stated that Mill Creek Fire Company had seven violations and summarized them for the public.

The Board acknowledged Jack Vogel of Harrington Fire Company. Mr. Vogel questioned the rules for Cookie Jar Bingo, and Ms. Messina responded. Mr. Vogel stated that he is aware of an organization in Dover who has two cookie jars that have reached the \$1000 limit, and have started a third jar without paying out the first jar. Mr. Vogel also advised the Board that some fire companies are keeping a portion of the cookie jar funds, instead of paying out 100% of the funds collected. Ms. Messina stated that if an organization is caught taking funds from a cookie jar bingo, they will be cited for a violation. Ms. Messina advised Mr. Vogel to file a complaint with the Division of Professional Regulation.

The Board acknowledged Wayne English of ABS Distributors and Seaford Elks. Mr. English asked if an organization states on its House Rules that side card games are not to be played during the intermission of a bingo event, does that relieve the organization of any responsibility if customers violate the rule? Ms. Messina and Mr. Greene agreed that the organization is responsible for the conduct of all players at the event, regardless of what is printed in the House Rules. If card games are being played by individuals during intermission, and a gaming inspector is present, the organization (not the individuals) will be cited for violating the law. Mr. Greene added that the Board is charged with making sure that non-profit organizations are obeying the law, and the organizations are responsible for making sure that members of the public obey the law at their events.

Mr. Franzoni stated that gaming applications only allow two individuals to be listed as Members In Charge of events. Mr. Franzoni asked if more than two individuals could be listed on a separate sheet attached to the application. Ms. Howard confirmed with other Division staff that there was no limitation with the licensing database regarding the number of Members In Charge listed on an application.

The Board acknowledged Mr. Vogel. After discussion, Ms. Messina and Mr. Greene stated that gaming permits may be mailed, emailed or faxed to an organization. Mr. Greene asked Ms. Wagner to meet with Mr. Vogel after the meeting and try to resolve his issues.

The Board acknowledged Carol Torre, who questioned whether vendors or Members In Charge need a badge or other form of identification. Mr. Greene and Ms. Messina confirmed that badges are required for vendors and Members In Charge during charitable gaming events.

# OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD None

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

At Mr. Greene's request, the public introduced themselves for the Board. Mr. Greene asked if anyone in the public had any specific questions for Ms. Betley regarding inspections. Wayne English questioned whether inspections would become an annual event or would remain random. Mr. Greene, Ms. Messina and Mr. Willard agreed that inspections will always be random. Mr. English asked the Board members to put themselves in a reverse role, as the volunteer of an organization in charge of a gaming event. Mr. English stated that many times, organizations don't have many volunteers to help during gaming events. Ms. Betley advised that inspectors are happy to sit down after an event or the next night to review violations with the Member In Charge of the event. Ms. Messina stated that the approved Member In Charge is in charge of the event and should be running the event and able to answer questions of the inspectors.

Mr. Greene recognized DAG Willard and the Division. Mr. Greene stated that Mr. Willard, Division staff, and gaming inspectors have done a tremendous job, particularly in the past two weeks since inspections have started, "My Hats off to everybody, the Board, the attorney, the Division, the investigators".

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled Board meeting is January 5, 2012 at 1:00 p.m., at 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Cannon Building, Conference Room B, Dover, Delaware.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, Ms. Messina made a motion, seconded by Ms. McDowell, to adjourn the meeting at 2:42 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Howard

Administrative Specialist II

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The notes of this meeting are not intended to be a verbatim record of the topics that were presented or discussed. They are for the use of the Board members and the public in supplementing their personal notes and recall for presentations.